

A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF THE FAMILY TACHINIDAE,  
PARASITIC ON *ARCHIPS CERASIFORINA*.

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## DICHAETONEURA n. gen.

THIS genus is closely related to *Phytomyptera* Rondani (Nouvi Annali delle Scienze Naturali di Bologna, 1845, p. 13, Tav. 1, figs. 1, 2). Rondani's figure shows the costal setae only to the tip of the auxiliary vein, in this genus they are equally prominent to the tip of the first, and nearly as marked to the tip of the second longitudinal vein, one or two more conspicuous setae are present before the junction of the auxiliary vein. *The first longitudinal vein is armed with a large bristle towards the outer end, while the third has two, on the noticeably thickened portion at the base.* In other respects it seems to resemble *Phytomyptera*, *i. e.*—in having the broad third antennal joint, and in the absence of the apical and posterior transverse veins. The marginal macrochaetae on the second and third abdominal segments are small, there are also discal macrochaetae on the third segment. The latter are sometimes present in *Phytomyptera* according to Braner and Bergenstamm, (*Zweiflügler der Kaiserlichen museums zu Wien*, Pt. III, pp. 148, 150, 1893.). Macrochaetae on the fourth segment large and numerous.

## DICHAETONEURA LEUCOPTERA n. sp.

♀ Head broad, face, front and occiput bluish-gray pollinose, frontal stripe reddish brown, forked above and narrowly extending along the ocellar triangle, upper angle of the cheeks also reddish brown, facial depression deep, and ridge prominent; vibrissae large with numerous smaller bristles above and on the cheeks, frontal bristles descend to nearly opposite the second antennal joint, there are two pair of orbital bristles, and the ocellar bristles are directed forward; first and second joints of the antennae, brown, very short, the second setose, the third black, broad and obtusely truncate, arista black, palpi brown.

Thorax including the pleurae and scutellum bluish gray pollinose, with two short, black, anterior, dorsal lines, and four postsutural and four sternopleural macrochaetae; scutellum bearing four pairs of marginal macrochaetae, two smaller bristles

are also present on the disc of the scutellum. Abdomen broad, entirely black, somewhat shining and covered with fine setae. Legs black, with prominent rows of bristles. Wings broad with a whitish or milky tinge, costa and first longitudinal vein dark brown, the other veins yellowish. Squamae white. Length, 5 mm.

Five specimens of this species were obtained from Dr. F. W. Russell of Winchendon, Mass., who bred them from the pupa of *Archips cerasivorana* Fitch. Later I received a specimen from Mr. E. F. Hitchings of Waterville, Me., who bred it from the same moth, July 28, 1906. Mr. D. W. Coquillett informs me that the National Museum has also received a specimen from Mr. Hitchings. Type in the collection of the Boston Society of Natural History.

In connection with this I should also like to record the host of *Actia pilipennis* Fallen, which was bred from *Schizura concinna* S. & A., August 13, 1905, by Prof. John Barlow, of Kingston, R. I.

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ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA.—The initial meeting was held in the American Museum of Natural History at New York City, Dec. 28, 1906. Prof. Wm. M. Wheeler delivered before the society an illustrated lecture on "The Polymorphism of Insects." Immediately after the lecture occurred the business meeting. Prof. J. H. Comstock of Ithaca, N. Y., was elected chairman and E. S. G. Titus of Washington, D. C., secretary of the meeting. The new society then adopted a constitution and by-laws and elected officers and the other members of the executive committee.

The following are the officers: President, J. H. Comstock, Ithaca, N. Y., 1st Vice President, James Fletcher, Ottawa, Can., 2nd Vice President, Henry Skinner, Philadelphia, Pa., Sec.-Treasurer, J. Chester Bradley, Berkeley, Cal.

The Executive Committee consists of the officers and the following Fellows: Wm. M. Wheeler, New York, N. Y., John B. Smith, New Brunswick, N. J., Herbert Osborn, Columbus, O., C. J. S. Bethune, Guelph, Can., F. M. Webster, Washington, D. C., and Chas. W. Johnson, Boston, Mass.

Following the business meeting there was a smoker at the Hotel Endicott given by the Brooklyn, Newark and New York Entomological Societies to the Association of Economic Entomologists and the Entomological Society of America.

The executive committee, at a meeting held December 29, decided to call a meeting of the society at Boston, Mass., in connection with the meeting of the International Zoological Congress in August, 1907. Full announcement will be made later. E. S. G. TITUS, *Secretary*.

## VALIDITY OF THE CULICID SUBFAMILY DEINOCERITINAE.

BY EVELYN GROESBEECK MITCHELL, WASHINGTON, D. C.

IN the August number of *PSYCHE* is a very interesting paper on *Deinocerites cancer*, by Mr. Fredrick Knab. He seems, however, to be possessed of certain delusions, which I shall attempt to relieve.

Before proceeding to this, I wish to say that I was partly in error regarding the labial plate of this larva. I described the plate from a single dissected specimen. Mr. Knab has since then shown me the labial plate of another specimen. In this,—and he says this is like others,—the two basal teeth and the central tooth are not, as I said (*PSYCHE*, Feb. 1906, p. 19, par. 4), longer than the rest, but are evenly graded; nor are the basal teeth spaced off any further than the rest. I believe that I described from a deformed specimen of the true labial plate and not, as Mr. Knab says, from an inner plate, but as the specimen is not now in my possession, I cannot absolutely verify this. I am aware that deformed labial plates are very rare; still I have seen a few. The teeth are otherwise as I described them, and I could tell the plate from any other at a glance, so characteristic is it.

I did not "bring forward as a discovery of Mr. Coquillett" the unusual length of the second antennal joint in the adult. I merely quoted his statement to me as to the *relative length* of this joint in *D. cancer* as compared with the length in all other known forms of Culicidae.

Nor did I assert that *only Deinocerites* possesses a groove in which the mandibles move. It is not the *presence* of this groove but its prominent *angulation* which is characteristic of this larva. Mr. Knab himself admits that this is unusual when he says that though "the same lateral expansion of this region occurs again in the larva of the Sabethid *Lesticocampa lunata*, the modification of the ridge into *rounded lobes*, outward from the maxillae — occurs in *most* mosquito larvae but may be *absent*, as in *Psorophora*." (The italics are mine.) I have not seen a specimen of *L. lunata* and Mr. Knab's figure of it, (The larvae of Culicidae classified as independent organisms, by H. G. Dyar and F. Knab — reprinted from the Jour. N. Y. Ent. Soc., Vol. XIV, No. 4, Pl. XV. Authors separates pub. Mar. 14, 1906 — the paper itself having been published in December), does not show any lateral expansion much resembling that of *Deinocerites*,— which, by the way, has a much more prominent and sharp angulation of the groove than shown in Mr. Knab's ventral view of the head, (Pl. V, *PSYCHE*, Aug. '06). But even if *L. lunata* had such a groove as